

NEW COLEOPTERA FROM WESTERN NORTH AMERICA

(Carabidae, Melasidae, Buprestidae, Curculionidae)

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Family CARABIDAE

Nebria raveni Van Dyke, new species

Of moderate size, robust, head and prothorax shining black, the former with two faint rufous spots on the front between the eyes, the elytra faintly violaceous in color. *Head* robust, four-fifths as broad as prothorax, eyes not prominent, barely projecting beyond the sides of the head, the neck with sides parallel, antennae reaching to middle third of elytra. *Prothorax* one-third broader than long, apex bisinuate, base transverse, sides broadly arcuate in front, strongly constricted posterior to middle and with pronounced right-angled hind angles, the disc with median longitudinal and anterior and posterior impressions well impressed, the lateral margins broad and distinctly reflexed. *Elytra* evenly elliptical, narrowed and feebly rounded in humeral region, the disc moderately convex, the striae deep and finely punctured, the intervals convex, the seventh with one foveate interruption on left side and two on the right. Legs and under surface smooth and shining black. Length 15 mm., breadth 6 mm.

Holotype female (in California Academy of Sciences, Entomology), collected along a small rill below a snowbank on the slopes of MT. DARWIN, at 13,600 feet, of the southern SIERRA NEVADA MOUNTAINS OF FRESNO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, August 9, 1952, by Peter Raven.

Nebria raveni, with *N. ingens* Horn and *N. riversi* Van Dyke, belongs to a group of three species all found at high altitudes in the southern Sierra Nevada Mountains of California. The three are more or less restricted in range and rather widely separated as to individual distribution. *N. riversi* is confined to Mt. Lyell and the high mountains to the east of the Yosemite Valley, *N. ingens* to Mt. Whitney and the high mountains of its territory and *N. raveni* to Mt. Darwin, a peak midway between Mt. Lyell and Mt. Whitney. *N. raveni* is midway in structure between the other two. *N. ingens* is jet black, the elytra elliptical but narrowed, especially towards base with the humeri obliterated, and with the elytral striae but vaguely punctured. *N. riversi* is rather robust, the elytra broadly elliptical, with the sides almost parallel and the humeri broadly rounded, of a bright metallic green color and with the

strial punctures fine but well defined. *N. raveni* is evenly elliptical in shape, with the sides less parallel than in *N. riversi*, the humeral area narrowed, without distinct humeri, the strial punctures quite evident and the surface dull and with a faint violet cast. The large size, wingless condition, and general shape of the head, particularly the parallel sided neck region is characteristic of all three.

Family MELASIDAE

Dromaeolus peninsularis Van Dyke, new species

Rather small, narrow, subcylindrical, opaque black above, antennae and legs rufo-piceous, sparsely clothed with a very short fulvous pile which is a bit more dense toward the base of the elytra. *Head* very convex, coarsely, densely punctured, a bit flattened just above the interocular carinae which are interrupted at the middle and feebly reflexed as a result of the flattening above, the clypeus flattened and coarsely, closely punctured with the basal half as broad as the apical margin; the antennae extending about two segments beyond the base of pronotum, robust, with segment four about as broad as long and the remainder to the tenth gradually longer. *Prothorax* a bit longer than broad, sides posteriorly straight and parallel, arcuately narrowed at apical third, disc somewhat flattened, with a feeble median longitudinal depression extending from the base to the center, the surface very densely punctured and at the sides rugose. *Elytra* finely striate, rather densely punctured but less dense and less coarse than the pronotum. Body beneath densely punctured but more finely than above, the punctures of the prosternum very coarse and discrete, the prosternal spine blunt, the triangle of the propleurae not twice as long as wide at base, the antennal groove not sharply limited internally. Length 7.5 mm., breadth 2 mm.

Holotype (in California Academy of Sciences, Entomology), from 10 miles east of MESQUITAL, LOWER CALIFORNIA, MEXICO, June 23, 1938, and *paratype* (C.A.S., Ent.) from 10 miles south of Punta Prieta, Lower California, June 21, 1938, both collected by A. E. Michelbacher and E. S. Ross.

This species is related to *Dromaeolus basalis* LeConte and according to the key in Horn's monograph (Trans. Amer. Ent. Soc., XIII, 1886, pp. 5-58) it possesses all the essential characteristics of that species. It differs, however, by having a duller, more sooty black appearance, more robust antennae, the segments 4-10 but little longer than broad, whereas they are decidedly longer in *basalis*; the interocular carinae more definitely transverse and a bit reflexed at margin, feebly arched in *basalis*; and the prosternal spine wedge-shaped, blunt at apex and flattened, whereas cordiform and sulcate in the other.

Family BUPRESTIDAE

Acmaeodera bryanti Van Dyke, new species

Small, subcylindrical, head and prothorax a greenish bronze and elytra a dark blue, without maculations, and rather sparsely though regularly clothed with short suberect setae, finer on front of head, longer on pronotum and regularly placed in rows on the elytral intervals. Prosternum transverse in front, thus belonging to the "*Acmaeoderae truncatae*" of Horn, the antennae with the fifth segment suddenly broader than fourth and last ventral segment without subapical crest. *Head* convex, rather coarsely, closely punctured, feebly, longitudinally impressed at middle of front, the clypeus with a transverse margin in front. *Prothorax* transverse, evidently broader than elytra, with sides broadly rounded, the disc convex and coarsely, cribrately punctured and with a slight median longitudinal impression, anterior margin broadly lobed at center, posterior transverse. *Elytra* about two and one-half times as long as prothorax, sides feebly sinuate, narrowed behind, rounded at apex and with margins of elytra serrate, disc convex, with striae finely yet sharply impressed and finely, closely punctured, the punctures somewhat elongate, and intervals about twice as wide as striae, somewhat flattened and with a row of fine, shallow punctures down their center from which arise the setae. Beneath the submentum closely punctured, prosternum more sparsely and finely and propleurae more coarsely and sparsely punctured and abdomen rather densely and somewhat coarsely punctured and with the pile more hairlike, much inclined and conspicuous but not dense. Length 6 mm., breadth prothorax 2 mm., elytra 1.75 mm.

Holotype (in California Academy of Sciences, Entomology), a unique collected at DEL RIO, TEXAS, May 10, 1951, by Owen Bryant.

This small but very distinct species belongs as stated in the "*Acmaeoderae truncatae*" series and according to Fall's table (Jour. New York Ent. Soc. VII, p. 29, 1899) should follow *A. cribricollis* Horn. Its size, color and type of pubescence should enable it to be readily distinguished from any of its associates.

Chrysobothris yucatanensis Van Dyke, new species

Of moderate size, bronzed, evenly rounded in front and gradually narrowed and moderately rounded at apex. The *head* is feebly convex in front in the males, distinctly so in the females, the clypeus broadly and shallowly emarginate with the outer portion rounded, the front coarsely, closely punctured, with a Y-shaped callosity on the vertex and a pair of callosities below and between the eyes, and feebly pilose, the antennae short with the outer segments serrate and gradually narrowed towards the apex. *Prothorax* slightly more than twice as broad as long, apex very feebly bisinuate, the base strongly so with the median lobe prominent, the disc moderately convex, with a slight depression at center, with well-spaced punctures medially and coarsely, closely punctured and rugose at the sides, and with a smooth longitudinal line extending from the center posteriorly to the apex of the

posterior median lobe. *Elytra* twice the length of prothorax, somewhat broader at base than prothorax, humeri prominent, sides gradually narrowed and arcuate from base to blunt and rounded apex, the apical margin serrulate, the disc feebly convex with three well-developed carinae, the inner parallel to suture and extending from apex almost to base (fully to base in one specimen), the second or median sinuous and reaching from apex to base with a slight interruption near base, and the third shorter and more or less interrupted and running from near apex to beyond middle where it arches outwardly and beneath the humeri, the general surface rather finely and sparsely punctured centrally and more coarsely, densely punctured and rugose laterally. Three shallow, more or less densely punctured foveae are generally present, a subapical one near the apex in the groove between the inner and median carinae, a second about one third the distance from apex which generally straddles or interrupts the outermost carina near its origin and a third, one-third the distance from base which straddles or interrupts the median carina. The ventral surface bronzed, the tarsi somewhat greenish, the prosternum smooth and shining medially, densely clothed with cinereous pile at sides, this pile continuing on to the abdomen but less dense, the abdominal sclerites definitely grooved along the middle. Length 11 to 12 mm., breadth 5 mm.

Males with front feebly convex and densely punctured, the front tibiae arched and with the apices rather abruptly though not greatly expanded, the last ventral segment broadly truncate and provided with a small tooth at sides of emargination.

Females with the front distinctly convex, coarsely punctured but not densely so except at sides, the front tibiae simply arched but without any apical expansion, and last ventral segment with but a small emargination at apex.

Holotype male, *allotype* female (in California Academy of Sciences, Entomology), and three *paratypes*, from COLONIA, YUCATAN, MEXICO, all reared from twigs of *Cedrela odorata* which had been scorched by the hot sun. The first two specimens were reared by the late John Miller, the remainder by J. P. Perry, Jr., from whom I received the material.

This species belongs to a small series of species including *C. distincta* Lap. and Gory, *C. schaefferi* Obenberger, *C. peninsularis*, Schaeffer and *C. sinaloae* Van Dyke. Its distinctive features are its rather compact elliptical shape, the prosternal pilosity, and the male forelegs with but a feeble apical enlargement.

Family CURCULIONIDAE

Nemocestes fragariae Van Dyke, new species

Rather small, robust, piceous, antennae and legs somewhat rufous (fresh specimens) densely clothed with closely applied gray scales with patches of darker scales here and there, giving the surface a tessellated appearance,

and evidently pilose, the pile fine, dense and suberect. *Head* flattened above, interocular area broad; rostrum quadrate, somewhat longer than head, feebly narrowed forward, both head and rostrum moderately punctured but punctures concealed in most cases by the scales; antennal scape reaching beyond front margin of prothorax, second funicular segment elongate, the following transverse and gradually broader; eyes somewhat prominent. *Prothorax* wider than long, widest at middle, sides evenly arcuate, disc with punctures moderately coarse but well spaced and often concealed by the scales. *Elytra* elliptical though with sides perceptibly parallel at middle, with humeral area well rounded, disc somewhat flattened, the declivity vertical, surface finely striate with striae feebly impressed and finely punctured, intervals flat. Abdomen feebly punctured but punctures generally concealed by scales. Length 5 mm., width 2.5 mm.

Holotype (in California Academy of Sciences, Entomology), and 15 *paratypes* all collected by H. E. Thomas from the roots of cultivated strawberries in the Springfield district near WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA, September 4, 1952.

This little weevil belongs to a series of rather small *Nemocestes* and perhaps resembles most *N. sordidus* Van Dyke from the area about Niles and San Jose, Calif. This latter has the pronotum more coarsely punctured, the eyes less protuberant, the afterbody more evenly arched and the pile shorter and more rigid. *N. montanus* Van Dyke, also has coarse pronotal punctures and somewhat flattened eyes as well as very short pile, and *N. puncticollis* Casey likewise has very coarse pronotal punctures and short setae but a prothorax that is widest behind the middle.

To date four species of this native genus have been reared from cultivated strawberries: the widely distributed *N. incomptus* Horn from near Watsonville; *N. sordidus* Van Dyke from near Niles and Berryessa, Calif.; *N. montanus* Van Dyke from Albany, Oregon, by J. Wilcox, and *N. fragariae* n. sp.

Dysticheus rotundicollis Van Dyke, new species

Of moderate size, robust, piceous, densely clothed with closely applied gray and light brown scales. More uniformly gray beneath, and densely setose over the entire upper surface, the setae very short, quite erect, and arranged in a double row along each elytral interval. *Head* flattened above, the interocular area broad, rostrum longer than wide, narrowed forwards with sides concave, both head and rostrum moderately punctured but punctures generally concealed by scales; antennal scape reaching beyond apex of prothorax, first four funicular segments a bit longer than broad, the last three transverse, the club fusiform and rufous; eyes small but convex. *Prothorax* as broad as long, widest at middle, sides evenly arcuate, disc feebly convex, punctures moderately coarse but well spaced and with short and

rigid setae arising from each. *Elytra* elliptical, the disc feebly convex, with striae fine but well impressed and with regular but well-spaced punctures, the intervals feebly convex. Abdomen feebly and sparsely punctured. Length 5.5 mm., breadth 2.5 mm.

Holotype (in California Academy of Sciences, Entomology), and *paratypes* collected at ANTIOCH, CALIFORNIA, September 16, 1952, by G. A. Marsh on *Senecio douglasii*.

The species varies considerably as to color, in some the lighter colored scales are more prominent, in others the darker, and in some the elytral disc is more or less uniformly dark but with the declivity entirely light. This species was first called to our attention by a series of specimens collected from nests of the wasp *Eucerceris* sp., by E. G. Linsley and J. W. MacSwain.

When compared with the type species (and only other species in the genus), *D. insignis* Horn, *D. rotundicollis* differs primarily in being a bit larger and more elongate, the prothorax about as broad as long whereas transverse in *D. insignis*, in being more robust and having a greater depth of body, the declivity vertical and in having the setae denser, more erect and rigid. All specimens that I have seen of *D. insignis* have been collected east of the Sierra Nevada Mountains in Owens Valley or Death Valley while *D. rotundicollis* seems to be restricted to sandy areas in the neighborhood of Antioch, at the upper end of the San Francisco Bay.

A NEW COSSONID BEETLE FROM CALIFORNIA,
PROBABLY INTRODUCED

(Coleoptera: Curculionidae)

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While investigating some old driftwood on the sand dunes south of San Francisco, Mr. W. B. Schulz has at various times during the last few years, succeeded in collecting quite a series of specimens of a small cossonid beetle which I consider to be a new species of the genus *Macrancylus*. This is the third species of the genus that I know of: *M. linearis* LeConte from Florida, Texas, the West Indies and the Hawaiian Islands (for *M. immigrans* [Perkins] is pronounced by Zimmerman to be the same); a species from the Galapagos Islands, the description of which will appear later in my paper on Galapagos Island Coleoptera; and this third species the description of which follows: